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The **BRITISH COMMONWEALTH**

Frank H. Underhill

The subtitle of this small volume, *An Experiment in Co-operation among Nations*, suggests the implications of Mr. Underhill's subject. His first chapter he devotes to the Victorian Empire which in the twentieth century transformed itself into the Commonwealth; the second chapter continues the story through the First World War and the "long armistice" that ended in the late thirties; his third chapter deals with the Commonwealth as its nations emerged from the Second World War. Altogether the book is an admirable introduction to the history of the Commonwealth combined with expert critical appraisal. Mr. Underhill has added a list of selected readings for the use of students and the general reader.

The major chapters of *The British Commonwealth* were originally presented as lectures at Duke University in the fall of 1955 under the auspices of the Duke University Commonwealth-Studies Center. Mr. Underhill's book is the first in a series to be published by the Duke University Press on behalf of the Center.

May \$2.00



Professor Frank H. Underhill, a native of Ontario, was educated in the schools of that Province, at the University of Toronto, and at Oxford. He has been a professor of history at the universities of Saskatchewan and Toronto and has served as president of the Canadian Historical Association. Author of numerous articles and books, he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and currently curator of Laurier House, Ottawa.

Family

Cases in

Court

Are there special problems in proper handling of divorce and other family cases, and if so what are they? Do we need special judges, special kinds of courts? Do we need to augment court staffs with skilled nonlegal professionals, such as social workers, psychologists, and marriage counselors? Or do we need to narrow the focus of court contact, leaving decision-making in human problem cases in the hands of non-court agencies with special expertness in the family field? Is there a need for revision of court procedures, or should we reform the law of divorce root and branch?

These are typical of the questions which faced the Inter-professional Commission on Marriage and Divorce Laws sponsored by a special American Bar Association committee for the

purpose of recommending remedial legislation in the field of divorce law. As a first step toward such long-range measures Mrs. Virtue set out to study how various types of courts actually do handle divorce cases now. *Family Cases in Court* is the result, a close analysis of the structure and operation of family courts in San Francisco, Chicago, Indianapolis, Toledo, Cincinnati, and Milwaukee. It is an unbiased, factual account of the problems—legal, judicial, human, moral and sociological—as they come before the judges with each tick of the clock of each court day. The facts will speak for themselves, and will have much to say to any reader, whether social scientist, judicial administrator, practicing attorney, or general reader.

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IT HAS THE DOUBLE VALUE OF ADDING TO EXISTING INFORMATION AND OF STIMULATING FURTHER ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF FAMILY CASES. WALTER GELLHORN.

THESE STUDIES HAVE CONSIDERABLE INTEREST FOR LAWYERS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND COUNSELORS. EMILY H. MUDD, MARRIAGE COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA.

by Maxine Virtue

Mrs. Virtue has been working for some time in the twilight zone where the techniques of law and of social work are being welded into partnership as the need for their joint services grows more apparent. For several years she has joined the two disciplines as Visiting Lecturer in the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan. Her distinguished career has been, however, primarily legal. After receiving her LL.B. from Yale in 1935 she practiced law in Kansas and served as Assistant Attorney General of that state

in 1945-46. The following year she began practicing in Michigan, where she was last year appointed Special Assistant Attorney General. In addition to numerous articles, Mrs. Virtue is the author of two earlier legal studies: *Survey of Metropolitan Courts: Detroit Area* (1950), and *Basic Structure of Children's Services in Michigan* (1953), on which Judge Harold Medina commented: "This is one of the finest pieces of legal writing that it has been my privilege to study."

THE RELIGIOUS PRESS IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES, 1802-1865

By Henry Smith Stroupe. Religious journalism in the United States began in the eighteenth century, but not until the 1830's did such literary activity become extensive. Between 1802 and the close of the Civil War, 159 or more religious newspapers and magazines were launched in the seaboard states south of the Potomac. This is the first general study of these periodicals. In narrative form the historical introduction describes the founding of the leading publications and defines their positions on denominational issues and their attitudes toward significant social and political developments. An annotated bibliography lists and locates extant files of all the newspapers and magazines discovered, many of them not to be found in other published lists. It also sets down the basic facts of publication, identifies editors, and classifies the contents of each periodical.

H. S. Stroupe, a former vice-president of the Historical Society of North Carolina, is professor of history and chairman of the Department of Social Sciences in Wake Forest College.

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Richard Hovey

MAN & CRAFTSMAN

by Allan H. Macdonald

Well-known to students of the symbolist movement as translator of the plays of Maeterlinck, Hovey is famed among the men of Dartmouth College and the brothers of the Psi Upsilon fraternity as probably the most gifted writer of college, fraternity, and drinking songs in the English language. The wider reading public remembers him as co-author of the *Songs from Vagabondia*, those gay records of the open road, the wide sky, and the good fellowship of beloved comrades. But Hovey was more than a translator and gifted lyricist. He was a bohemian rebel against the social and literary standards of his time. Though his verse lacks some of Byron's force, he shares with the great English poet a sturdy defiance of bourgeois convention. His dramatic Arthurian poems, which embody much of his own philosophy on the relationship of the individual artist to late nineteenth-century society, also reflect the secret history of his liaison with and subsequent marriage to the beautiful Mrs. Rus-

sell, in which he displayed a passionate intensity reminiscent of Byron's attachment to Teresa Guiccioli and Yeats's love for Maud Gonne.

Until Professor Allan Macdonald of Dartmouth College completed this critical biography shortly before his death in 1951, no authoritative life of Hovey existed. With complete access to the family papers, Professor Macdonald has drawn, for the first time, this fascinating full-length portrait. The book contains a valuable bibliography of Hovey especially compiled by Edward C. Lathem.

August \$4.75



GEORGE W. CABLE

A Biography by Arlin Turner

In the caustic years following the Civil War George W. Cable was the first of a new generation of Southern authors to win national attention. The eight stories of *Old Creole Days* and the powerful novel *The Grandissimes*, his best works, mark out Creole New Orleans as Cable's own. The exotic city, a galaxy of unforgettable characters, the unique Creole dialect, all of this Cable brought to the pages of fiction with a literary realism parallel to the experiments of Howells, Mark Twain, and Henry James.

Though he was the son and grandson of slaveowners and a former Confederate cavalryman, Cable nevertheless undertook in 1884 a ten-year campaign for extending full civil rights to the Negro. Segregation he opposed in all its forms, at a time when to take such a stand in the South was to stand alone. Yet he argued the question in every medium open to him. Much of what he said in the 1880's would not be out of place in this morning's newspaper. Later, living in Northampton, Massa-

chusetts, Cable founded and directed a program for public improvement which was the model for others in his time and continues today, adjusted to later needs, in the buildings and activities of the People's Institute at Northampton.

In his long life, enclosing both the Civil War and the First World War, Cable was closely associated with many of his literary contemporaries, notably Twain, Howells, and Barrie. His career is important to both literary and social history, and Mr. Turner's narrative takes on color from the courage, the determination, the genial humor, and the warm humanity of the man at its center.

June \$6.00

* * *

Arlin Turner is professor of American Literature at Duke University and managing editor of the quarterly *American Literature*. His articles have appeared in a number of journals and his study *Hawthorne as Editor* was published in 1941.

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